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Goldwater Says Johnson Plays Politics With War

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WASHINGTON, May 5 — Former Senator Barry Goldwater charged today that the Johnson Administration was jeopardizing American troops in Vietnam by policies designed to "curry favor" with domestic critics of the war.

Mr. Goldwater said that Senator J. W. Fulbright, Arkansas Democrat who has been critical of the war, should resign as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for giving "aid and comfort to the enemy."

In a free-swinging speech reminiscent of his 1964 campaign, the last Republican Presidential nominee charged that the Administration's limited war policy "is an unforgivable disservice to the men who are doing the fighting."

Mr. Goldwater received enthusiastic applause from 3,000 Republican women attending a party campaign conference at the Sheraton Park Hotel.

Romney Also Hailed

Later in the day, the women gave another warm reception to Gov. George Romney of Michigan, a potential Presidential contender in 1968 who balked at supporting Mr. Goldwater's bid in 1964.

Mr. Romney gave the women a fiery rendition of his favorite speech, dealing with "the gravest threats to the future of our country . . . the decline in religious conviction, moral character and family life."

Mr. Goldwater, Mr. Romney



Associated Press Wirephoto

Barry Goldwater as he assailed policy on Vietnam.

and other speakers at the opening session of the campaign conference also dwelled on the inflation issue.

Ray C. Bliss, the Republican national chairman, said that growing disillusionment with the Johnson Administration's handling of the war and the economy gave his party "a golden opportunity" for gains this year.

Senator John J. Williams of Delaware told the women that United States fighters in Vietnam were beset by shortages.

Mr. Goldwater said in his speech that "much as both par-

ties dislike war, the fact that we are once again at war under a Democratic Administration is going to be an issue."

The 1964 nominee criticized the Administration for failing to close the North Vietnamese port of Haiphong and for "not utilizing our air power to hit targets that really count."

'Unforgivable Disservice'

"To wage a limited war against carefully selected targets to curry favor with a domestic political group to whom the word 'escalation' is the greatest of all evils not only flies in the face of all history but is an unforgivable disservice to the men who are doing the fighting," he said.

Mr. Goldwater said the shortages of bombs, ammunition and personnel in Vietnam "are taking on the proportions of a national scandal." He said that those who criticized the Pentagon were quickly called irresponsible by the Secretary of Defense, Robert S. McNamara.

"Being called irresponsible by what in my opinion is the most irresponsible man in Government is in my opinion a compliment," he said.

Mr. Goldwater's attack on Senator Fulbright appeared to be based on the latter's recent speeches, charging that American foreign policy has been warped by "the arrogance of power" and a "fatal presumption" similar to that of Napoleonic France and Nazi Germany.

The Republican standard-bearer declared:

"I am ashamed to watch a policy-

television set and see Democratic members of the United States telling the American people that our power has made America arrogant, and self-righteous, and expansionist and immoral."

"No American has the right or the justification to level such charges against his own country," he said. "And that goes double for doing it in a time of war and in a fashion that lends aid and comfort to our enemies. And I don't care whether the American is a misguided Viet-nik or chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee."

Presses for Registration

Recalling a Fulbright suggestion that President Truman resign after the sweeping Republican Congressional victory of 1946, Mr. Goldwater said the Senator "could do no greater service for his nation and the American fighting men in Vietnam than to resign as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee."

Mr. Fulbright replied:

"I don't care to comment on Mr. Goldwater's statement."

Senator Fulbright's criticisms of American policy were also challenged today by Senator Jacob K. Javits, Republican of New York. In a Senate speech, Mr. Javits said this country had generally "exercised restraint" in its policies.

Senator Javits said Mr. Fulbright was wrong in "questioning the motives" of American policy-makers, rather than dealing with the substance of their